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22 September 1965

OCI No. 0582/65

Copy No. 51



INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

REVIEW OF INSURGENCY PROBLEMS

This publication provides a periodic review of internal security in underdeveloped countries where there is a threat from Communist-supported insurgency.

DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

Office of Current Intelligence

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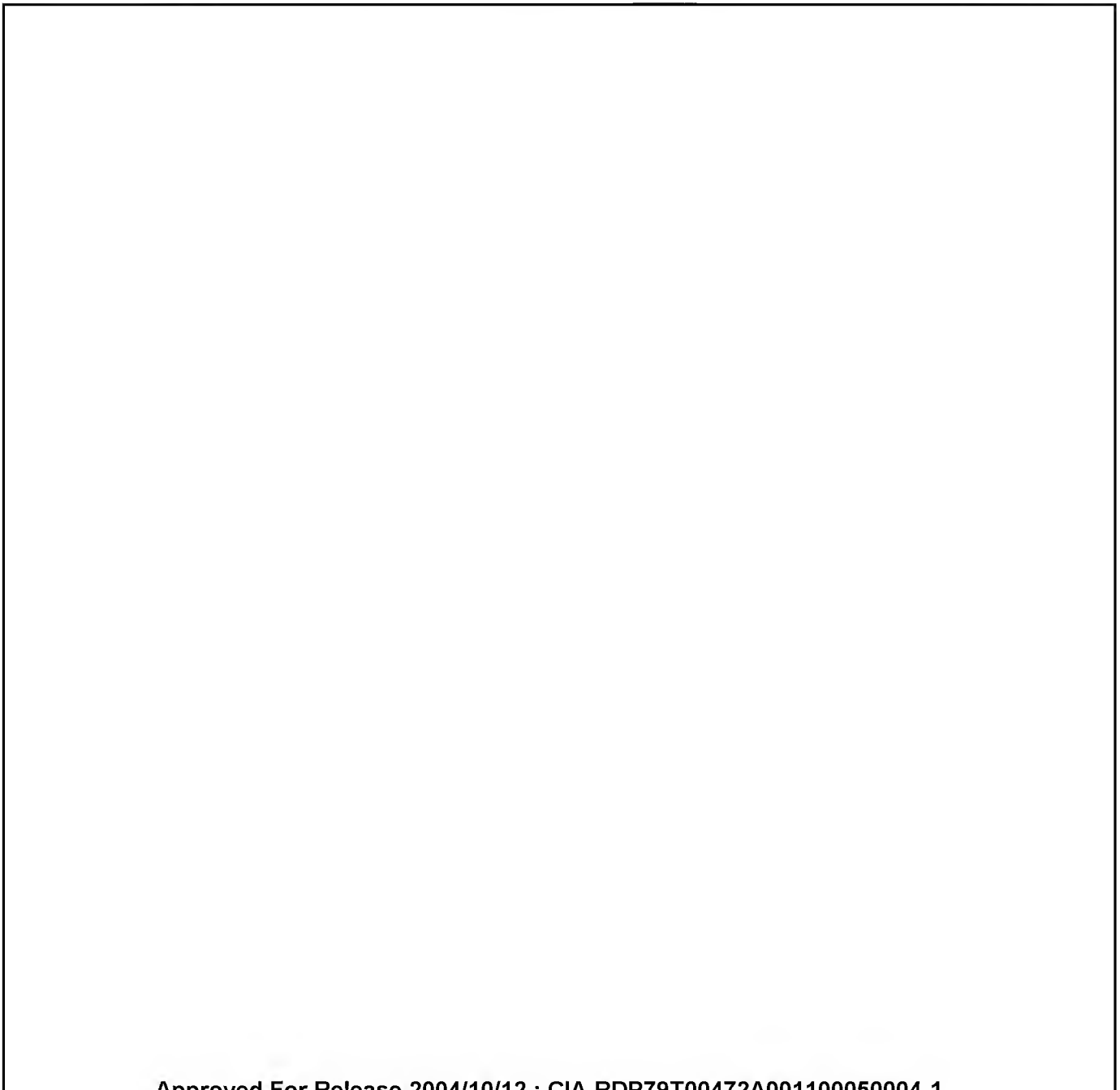
OCI No. 0582/65

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
22 September 1965

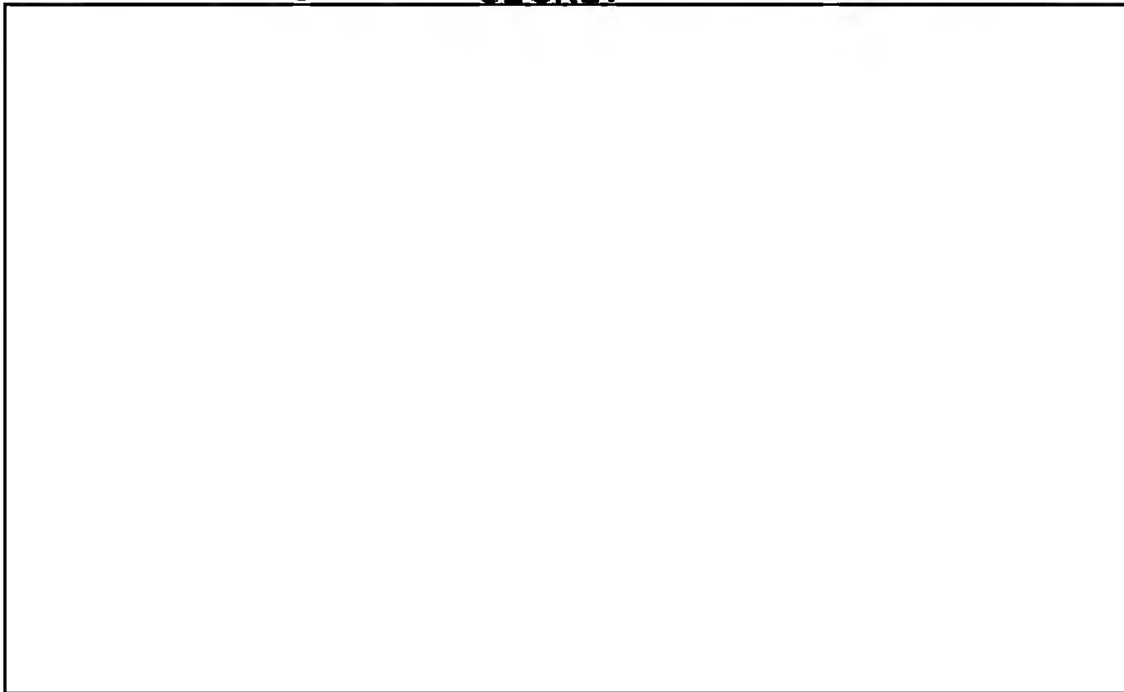
INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Review of Insurgency Problems

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2. Bolivia

Bolivia appears to be in for a period of acute political instability as a result of bloody clashes between tin miners and security forces at the Catavi - Siglo Veinte mine complex. The current crisis began on 18 September when miners at Catavi - Siglo Veinte attacked police attempting to arrest extremist mine unions leaders. The extremists, most of whom belong to the Trotskyite Revolutionary Workers' Party, but including some members of the center-right Bolivian Socialist Falange (FSB), have played upon the miners' discontent with the mine rehabilitation program to incite violence against the military junta.

The 20 September battle between miners and police resulted in at least 28 deaths and scores of wounded. The unrest has so far been confined to Catavi - Siglo Viente. Army reinforcements have restored order there, but tensions in the entire mining region remain high.

A deepening of the crisis depends to a large extent upon the desire and ability of students and urban workers to stage violent demonstrations in the capital. The fact that leaders of the student movement are at a conference in Tarija in southeast Bolivia may delay student reaction for a few days.

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3. Colombia

The army completed its invasion of the Communist-dominated region of Riochiquito on 16 September, slightly less than a week after the operation began. It met the major objective of occupying the territory, thus denying its use to the Communist gangs of "Major" Ciro Castano and Tiro Fijo, who had joined forces in Riochiquito after Tiro Fijo fled from Marquetalia earlier in the year.

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in an accelerated civic action program to rehabilitate and re-educate the peasant villagers who have been under Communist influence for several years. The first problem, aside from care of the sick and wounded, will be to overcome the peasants' distrust of the army.


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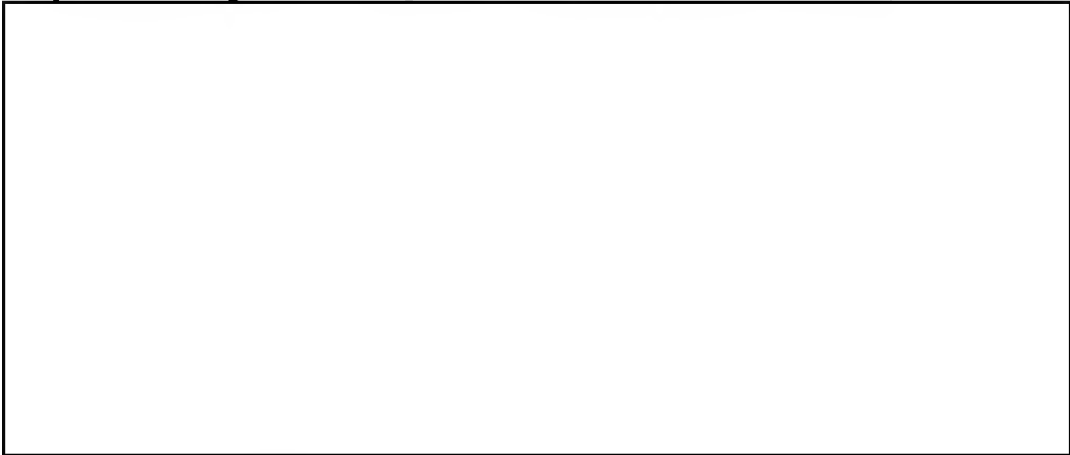
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4. Peru

Army and police forces resumed the offensive against a guerrilla redoubt in Cuzco Department on 19 September after almost two weeks of inaction due to adverse weather conditions. Ground forces action was preceded by several air force bombing sorties on 18 September. Results of the offensive are not yet known. The most recent previous encounter in the southern zone of operations was on 9 September, when five guerrillas were reportedly killed. The army claims to have occupied an abandoned guerrilla camp shortly thereafter.


Guerrilla activity has not yet broken out in the northern zone although police are seeking out and arresting persons suspected of subversion. Patrol activity continues in the mountainous Ayabaca region along the border with Ecuador;



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5. Venezuela

The Communist-dominated Armed Forces of National Liberation (FALN) may be in a particularly vulnerable position for the next few months because of recent arrests of its members, the dispersal of Communist leaders, and a new financial crisis within the Venezuelan Communist Party (PCV).



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[redacted] five policemen were killed and one was wounded in terrorist assaults since 14 September, according to press reports. On 18 September, a police inspector was killed and five bombs were exploded in Caracas by members of the Venezuelan Communist Youth (JCV) commemorating their organization's eighteenth anniversary. Meanwhile, guerrilla activity appears to be continuing in western and, to a lesser extent, in eastern Venezuela. In western Venezuela, guerrillas reportedly temporarily seized two villages, unsuccessfully attempted to seize a third, and ambushed an army patrol, wounding four soldiers. In seizing one of the western villages, the guerrillas stole weapons and held the mayor and a policeman hostage, according to press reports.

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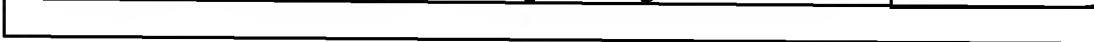


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The other successful assault on a village was reportedly carried out by approximately 50 guerrillas. In eastern Venezuela, government forces clashed with guerrillas in a brief encounter, reportedly resulting in five deaths--probably among the guerrillas.



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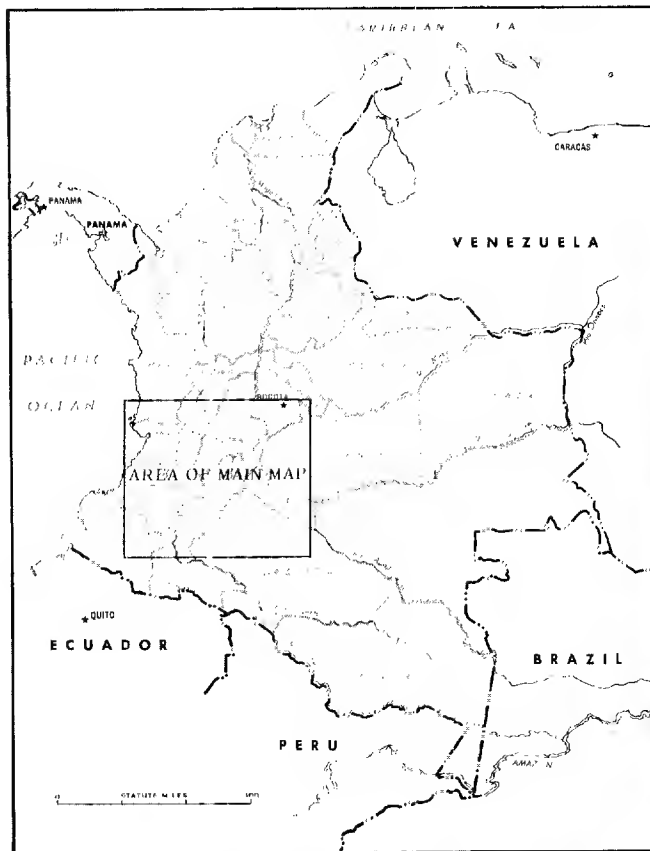
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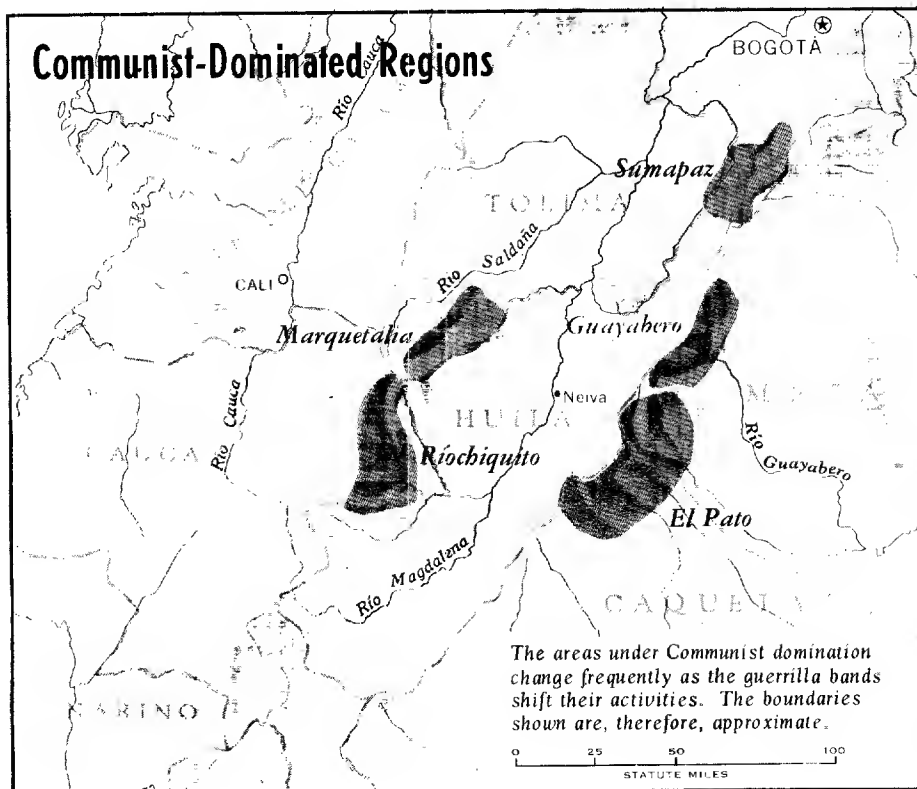
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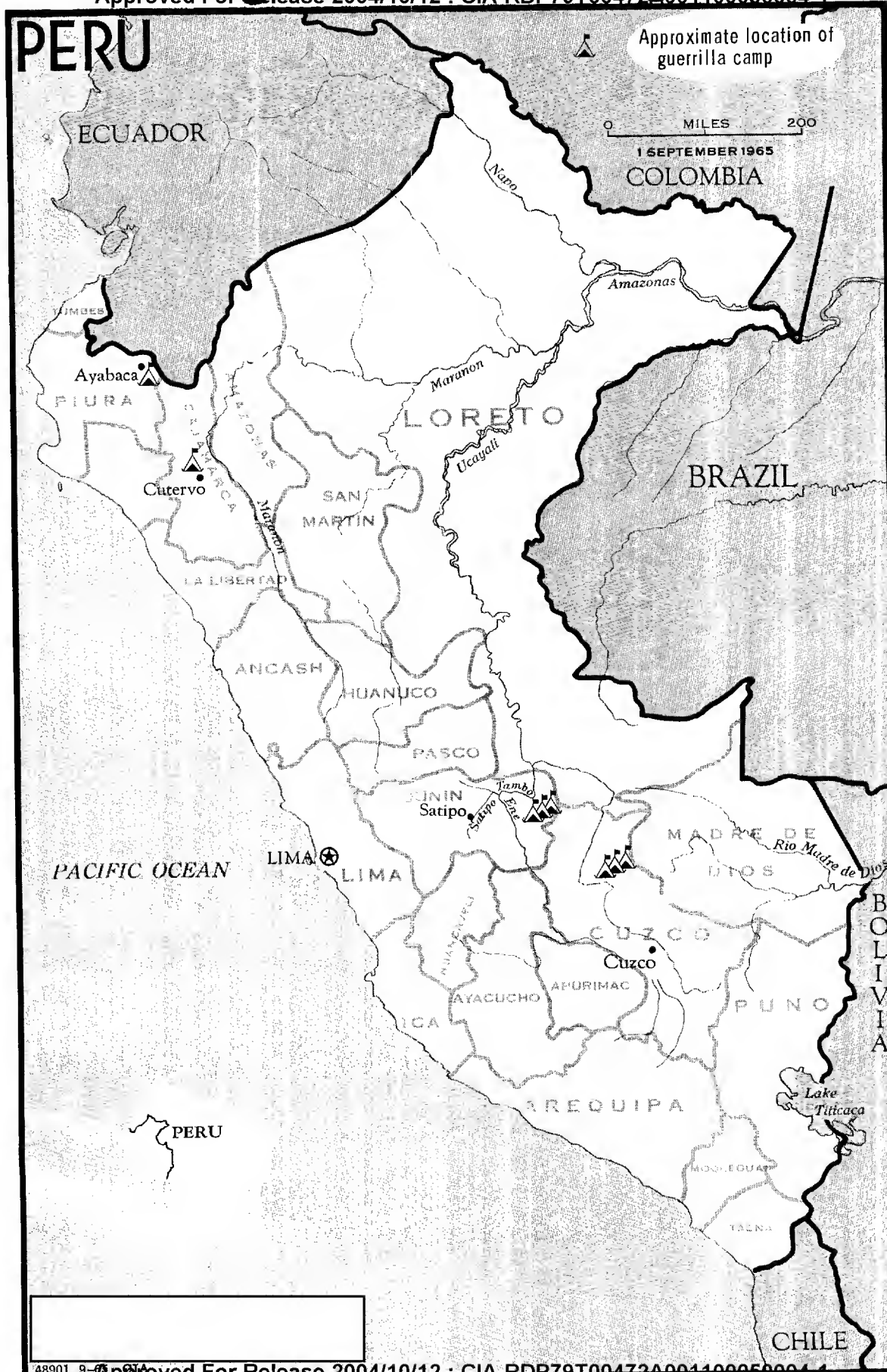
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COLOMBIA





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